

NEPHI PROBST



Bishop of Midway Second Ward 1935-1937.

Nephi Probst, the son of John Ulrich and Susanna Gertsch Probst, was born June 17, 1900 at Midway, Wasatch County, Utah. His parents were converts to the gospel from Switzerland. They did not know each other until they met in Midway.

He herded sheep, worked at the mine and studied the gospel and planned to fill a mission. When 19 years of age he received his missionary call to the Northern States. He labored in Chicago, Illinois. Later he was made Conference President and transferred to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His joys in missionary work were great. As Paul of old, he also tasted the bitter as well as the sweet. On one occasion he was severely beaten by one of his contacts.

While in Milwaukee he met Elizabeth Beck, also a missionary. She and her companion were released from their mission the same day he was, in November, 1922, and traveled home together. This was the beginning of a romance which ended in marriage December 21, 1923. To them were born ten children:

Verle, married Kenneth Young;
Grant, married Barbara McAfee;
Faye, married Hyrum Bates;

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Boyd, married Elena Graham;
Emery, married Marjorie Buckley;
Geneil, married Alvin Zufelt;
Evan, married Bonita Talbot;
Kyle;
Paul;
Janice.

He has served faithfully in many church positions. He was president of the YMMIA from November, 1922 to December, 1923 when he became Presiding Elder at Keetley where he served until June, 1924. He was counselor in the Stake Sunday School to L. C. Montgomery September 11, 1927 to September 8, 1935. He was Senior President of the 96th Quorum of Seventies, which position his father held previously.

In 1935 he was called to be the Bishop of the Midway Second Ward. During this time the church grounds were landscaped and beautified; pine trees were brought from the head of Provo River and planted. He served as Bishop for two years until September, 1937 when he was asked by President H. Clay Cummings to be second counselor in the Stake Presidency with Don Clyde as first counselor and Charles Broadbent, stake clerk.

Ten years later when Don Clyde moved to Provo, he was chosen as first counselor to President Cummings on November 2, 1947, which position he held until the release of the Stake Presidency November 16, 1958. He has spent many happy hours of church service administering to the sick, contacting the young people, and building up a friendship among his associates which is priceless.

He had studied to be a railroad clerk; but when he returned from his mission, he bought a piece of ground to farm and became a dairy farmer. He was also a miner. For several years he was Secretary of the Midway Waterworks and also County Weed Supervisor. During the Second World War he served as Chairman of the Wasatch County War Board, having charge of the rationing of gas, machinery, etc.

One of the outstanding events of his life was an invitation to attend the dedication of the Los Angeles Temple March 8, 1959. President J. Reuben Clark Jr., and Elder Henry D. Moyle escorted him and President Cummings to the stand at the opening session of the dedication.